

**REMARKS**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102 and 103***

Rejected claims 1-19, 23, 24, 27 and 28 are canceled without prejudice.  
Withdrawal of the stated rejections is kindly requested.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 20-22, 25-26, and 29 contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claims 20-21, 25-26, and 29 have been re-presented in independent form with all the limitations of the original parent claim and any intervening claims. No new matter has been added. Claim 22 depends from claim 21 and thus did not need to be re-presented in independent form. Allowance of claims 20-22, 25-26, and 29 is respectfully sought.

***Conclusion***

The present application is thought to be in a condition for allowance. Therefore, a timely Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HODGSON RUSS LLP

By 

George L. Snyder, Jr.  
Reg. No. 37,729

One M&T Plaza, Suite 2000  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2391  
(716) 856-4000  
DATED: January 22, 2004